

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
Phone: (502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277
E-mail: nass-ky@nass.usda.gov
and the
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Richie Farmer, Commissioner

Volume No. 23 Issue No. 9

Released: May 3, 2004

Published twice monthly

FEATURING: ▶ Agricultural Prices ▶ Meat P.D.I. ▶ Floriculture ▶ Milk P.D.I.

KENTUCKY CATTLE, CORN AND SOYBEAN PRICES CONTINUE STRONG

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were up for cattle and calves, corn and soybeans while down for hogs and winter wheat.

Cattle and calf prices for mid-April continued strong. **Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$90.00 per cwt. for mid-April. This was up \$1.00 from March and \$14.00 from April 2003. This would be the highest steer and heifer price on record. The previous high of \$89.00 per cwt. occurred in September 2003 and March 2004. **Beef cow** prices averaged \$46.00 per cwt., up \$2.00 from March and \$8.00 from a year earlier. **Calves** under 500 lbs averaged \$110.00 per cwt., a record high. The mid-April price was up \$2.00 from March and \$20.00 from April 2003.

Prices for hogs were down from the previous month. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-April averaged \$46.00 per cwt., down \$1.00 from March while up \$11.00 from April 2003. **Sows** at \$39.00 per cwt. were down \$1.00 from March while up \$12.00 from the previous year.

The price of **all milk** for mid-April was \$17.60 per cwt., up \$1.90 from a month earlier and \$5.70 from April 2003. This was the highest milk price since September 2001. **Milk cow** price for mid-April was \$1,550.00 per head, up \$240.00 from January, \$220.00 from April 2003 and the highest price since July 2002.

Prices for corn and soybeans continued to advance while the winter wheat price dipped a little. The mid-April price of **corn** was \$3.15 per bushel, up 25 cents from the previous month and 54 cents from the previous year. This was the highest corn price since September 1996. The **soybean** price for mid-month was \$9.70 per bushel, an increase of 66 cents from March and \$3.70 from April 2003. The mid-April soybean price was the second highest on record. The highest price was \$10.40 in June 1973. The **winter wheat** price was \$3.75 per bushel per bushel, down 15 cents from March while up 69 cents from a year earlier.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April was 124, based on 1990-92=100, was 3 points (2.5 percent) above the March Index. This was the highest index level since records began. The Livestock Products Index increased 4 points (3.3 percent) from March while the All Crops Index increased 2 points (1.7 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, cattle, corn, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for eggs, strawberries, hogs, and tobacco. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cattle, milk, strawberries, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and hogs.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 23 points (23 percent) from April, 2003.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS -(Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		APR 2003	MAR 2004	APR 2004	APR 2004
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	2.61	2.90	3.15	2.87
Soybeans b/	Bu.	6.00	9.04	9.70	9.54
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	3.06	3.90	3.75	3.76
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	105.00	100.00	100.00	92.70
All Other Hay,	Ton	61.00	58.00	58.00	76.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	34.70	46.70	45.70	45.10
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	35.00	47.00	46.00	45.40
Sows	Cwt.	27.00	40.00	39.00	38.90
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	66.90	78.20	79.40	85.30
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	76.00	89.00	90.00	89.70
Cows	Cwt.	38.00	44.00	46.00	49.00
Calves f/	Cwt.	90.00	108.00	110.00	116.00
Milk Cows g/	Each	1,330.00	-	1,550.00	1,580.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	11.90	15.70	17.60	18.00
Hog-Corn Ratios h/	Bu.	13.3	16.1	14.5	15.7

a/ Preliminary. b/ Includes contract sales paid during month. c/ Includes yellow and white corn. d/ "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. e/ 500 lbs. and over. f/ Under 500 lbs. g/ Published only in Jan., Apr., July & Oct. h/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

CASH RECEIPTS FROM SALES OF CATTLE & CALVES

The sale of cattle & hogs in **Kentucky** during 2003 resulted in cash receipts of \$610.6 million, up 26 percent from 2002. Cattle marketings were up from 2002 but hog marketings were down. Cash receipts for **cattle and calves** were \$543.9 million in 2003, an increase of 32 percent from 2002's \$413.4 million. Marketings increased 19 percent from 581.4 million pounds in 2002 to 691.6 million pounds in 2003. Average prices were up from the previous year for cattle and calves. Cattle averaged \$72.30 per cwt. during 2003 compared with \$64.90 a year earlier. Calf prices averaged \$92.00 per cwt., compared with \$84.90 during 2002. **Hog** receipts were \$66.7 million during 2003, down 8 percent from the previous year. Average prices at \$36.40 per cwt. were up \$5.40 per cwt. from 2002. Marketings at 173.8 million pounds for 2003 were down 21 percent from the 221.0 million pounds a year earlier.

Nationally, cash receipts from marketings of meat animals increased 17 percent to \$56.6 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 80 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 19 percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production increased for hogs and pigs, but declined for both cattle and calves and sheep and lambs. Average prices were up for all three species. Cash receipts from marketings of **cattle and calves** increased from \$38.0 billion in 2002 to \$45.1 in 2003, a 19 percent increase. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 56.8 billion pounds in 2003, up 1 percent from 2002. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$79.70, an increase of \$13.20 from 2002. For calves, the annual average price increased \$5.60 to \$102.00. Cash receipts from **hogs and pigs** totaled \$10.6 billion during 2003, up 11 percent from 2002. Marketings totaled 27.2 billion pounds in 2003, down less than one-half of one percent from 2002. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$33.40 in 2002 to \$37.20 in 2003. Cash receipts from marketings of **sheep and lambs** in 2003 were \$505 million, up 18 percent from 2002. Marketings decreased 7 percent to 607 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep increased from \$28.20 in 2002 to \$34.90 in 2003 while for lambs, the annual average price increased \$20.30 to \$94.40.

MEAT ANIMALS: PRODUCTION & INCOME - KENTUCKY

	2001	2002	2003
CATTLE & CALVES	(Thousand Head)		
Beginning Inventory	2,260	2,300	2,400
Calf Crop	1,080	1,110	1,110
Inshipments	100	72	65
Marketings	1,023	946	1,121
Farm Slaughter	6	6	6
Deaths	111	120	128
	(Thousand Pounds)		
Production	622,480	622,499	618,973
Marketings	630,920	581,350	691,590
	(Dollars Per 100 Pounds)		
Cattle	71.70	64.90	72.30
Calves	96.20	84.90	92.00
	(Thousand Dollars)		
Cash Receipts	499,782	413,376	543,872
Gross Income	509,575	422,014	554,334
HOGS & PIGS	(Thousand Head)		
Beginning Inventory	430	405	360
Pig Crop	797	763	644
Inshipments	117	135	115
Marketings	885	906	706
Farm Slaughter	5	5	4
Deaths	49	32	29
	(Thousand Pounds)		
Production	206,470	203,855	169,331
Marketings	213,607	220,966	173,754
	(Dollars Per 100 Pounds)		
All Hogs & Pigs	42.00	31.00	36.40
	(Thousand Dollars)		
Cash Receipts	94,321	72,847	66,700
Gross Income	96,182	74,076	67,982

1/December 1 previous year.

KENTUCKY FLOWERS & FOLIAGE PLANTS - 2003

The **Kentucky** 2003 expanded wholesale value of sales of flowers and foliage totaled \$34.5 million, up 7 percent from the revised 2002 value of \$32.3 million. The expanded wholesale value is the value reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus calculated wholesale value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. Kentucky ranked 31st of the 36 states that conducted a floriculture survey.

Data for Kentucky's potted flowering plants, annual bedding/garden plants (including pots, flats and hanging baskets), herbaceous perennials, foliage plants for indoor and patio use, cut flowers and propagative (unfinished) material was provided by growers with sales of \$100,000 or more. The wholesale value of total bedding/garden plants (\$23.0 million), potted flowering plants (\$4.02 million) and foliage for indoor or

patio use (\$1.57 million) totaled \$28.6 million. The bedding/garden total was made up of two parts, annual bedding/garden plants (17.7 million) and herbaceous perennial plants (\$5.32 million). Due to disclosure restraints, cut flower sales and propagative (unfinished) material were not included in total sales. Total value of production of Kentucky's \$100,000 plus operations was \$28.6 million.

The number of floriculture growers in Kentucky with sales of \$10,000 or more totaled 215, down 10 from the 2002 revised number of growers. Total greenhouse cover for the State was 5.66 million square feet, up 2 percent from 2002. Film plastic (single and multiple layer) represented 79 percent, fiberglass and other rigid plastic make up 11 percent and glass made up 10 percent. Shade and temporary cover made up 125,000 square feet.

**POTTED FLOWERS, BEDDING/GARDEN PLANTS, FOLIAGE PLANTS AND CUT FLOWERS
PRODUCED BY KENTUCKY GROWERS WITH SALES OVER \$100,000 - 2003**

Item	Number of Producers	Units	Total Sales	% of Sales at Wholesale	Wholesale Price			Value of all Sales at Wholesale
					Less than 5 inch	5 inch or more	Comb. Sizes	
			(1,000 Units)			(Dollars)		(1,000)
<u>POTTED FLOWERING PLANTS:</u>								
African Violets <u>2/</u>	-	Pots	-	-	-	-		-
Finished Florist Azaleas	9	Pots	11	58		10.02		110
Florist Chrysanthemums <u>1/</u>	9	Pots	97	90			2.73	264
Easter Lilies	11	Pots	37	97		4.84		179
Poinsettias	27	Pots	676	88	1.99	4.69		3,062
Florist Roses <u>2/</u>	-	Pots	-	-	-	-		-
Spring Flowering Bulbs <u>1/</u>	9	Pots	49	87			5.10	250
Other Flowering Plants	6	Pots	33	88	2.46	4.10		130
<u>HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS:</u>								
Potted Hardy/Garden Chrysanthemums	34	Pots	895	92			1.88	1,681
Potted Hosta <u>3/</u>	33	Pots	171	84			2.64	451
Other Potted <u>3/</u>	37	Pots	870	71			3.67	3,192
<u>ANNUAL BEDDING/GARDEN PLANTS:</u>								
POTS								
Begonia	27	Pots	115	59	1.14	2.70		162
Geraniums (Cuttings)	44	Pots	512	69	1.55	3.44		1,073
Geraniums (Seed) <u>1/</u>	17	Pots	270	80			1.00	269
New Guinea Impatiens	44	Pots	230	71	1.65	2.25		411
Impatiens <u>1/</u>	12	Pots	74	84			0.82	61
Marigold <u>1/</u>	5	Pots	19	68			0.71	14
Pansy/Viola	8	Pots	201	86	0.53	2.67		147
Petunias	24	Pots	337	47	0.86	1.97		309
Other Flowering and Foliage	30	Pots	1,970	85	1.42	2.55		3,974
Vegetable Type	21	Pots	117	40	0.83	2.27		132
FLATS								
Begonia	46	Flats	90	69	Wholesale Price			662
Geraniums (Cuttings) <u>2/</u>	-	Flats	-	-		7.36		-
Geraniums (Seed)	5	Flats	4	76		10.13		41
New Guinea Impatiens	7	Flats	6	50		13.88		83
Impatiens	47	Flats	112	68		7.16		802
Marigold	44	Flats	64	65		7.31		468
Pansy/Viola	49	Flats	173	84		7.94		1,374
Petunias	48	Flats	92	67		8.16		751
Other Flowering and Foliage	41	Flats	531	75		7.29		3,871
Vegetable Type	42	Flats	76	69		8.89		676
HANGING PLANTS								
Begonia	27	Baskets	27	73		6.45		174
Geraniums (Cuttings)	29	Baskets	26	70		7.68		200
Geraniums (Seed)	5	Baskets	5	87		4.80		24
New Guinea Impatiens	35	Baskets	52	79		6.65		346
Impatiens	32	Baskets	46	80		5.37		247
Marigold <u>2/</u>	-	Baskets	-	-		-		-
Petunias	33	Baskets	30	61		6.54		196
Other Flowering	28	Baskets	190	73		6.01		1,142
<u>FOLIAGE PLANTS FOR INDOOR OR PATIO USE:</u>								
Potted Foliage	14	Pots		92				1,240
Foliage, Hanging	24	Baskets	49	72		6.67		327
<u>CUT FLOWERS: 4/</u>								
<u>PROPAGATIVE (UNFINISHED) FLORICULTURE MATERIAL: 5/</u>								
<u>TOTAL WHOLESALE VALUE: 6/</u>								34,514

1/Pot price is a weighted average of all pots reported to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 2/Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
3/Pot price is a weighted average of all pots (less than 1 gallon, 1 to 2 gallon and 2 gallon and larger) reported to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
4/Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Includes Pompon Chrysanthemums, Iris, Lilies, Snapdragons, Tulips and Other Cut Flowers.
5/Propagative material was confidential. 6/Equivalent wholesale value of all sales (operations under \$100,000 in sales estimated).

UNITED STATES FLOWERS & FOLIAGE PLANTS - 2003

The 2003 wholesale value of floriculture crops for the U.S. was down 1 percent from the revised 2002 valuation. The total crop value at wholesale for all growers with \$10,000 or more in sales was estimated at \$5.16 billion for 2003, compared with \$5.21 billion for 2002. California was again the leading State with crops valued at just over \$1.00 billion, down 2 percent from the previous year. Florida was down 1 percent from 2002 with \$823 million in wholesale value. These two States accounted for 35 percent of the total value. The top five States, California, Florida, Michigan, Texas, and New York, accounted for \$2.66 billion, 52 percent of the total value.

The total wholesale value of floriculture crops grown by operations exceeding the \$100,000 sales level was \$4.85 billion for 2003, down 1 percent from the revised 2002 total. These operations account for 94 percent of the total value of floriculture crops, but comprise only 40 percent of all growers. Bedding and garden plants wholesale value, at \$2.48 billion, was the largest contributor to the value of production, up 1 percent from the previous year. Potted flowering plants value, at \$857 million, was down 2 percent

from 2002. The foliage category was valued at \$623 million for 2003. This was down 5 percent from the revised 2002 estimate. Value of cut flowers, at \$425 million, was down less than 1 percent, while cut cultivated greens, at \$109 million, was down 5 percent from 2002.

The number of growers for 2003, at 11,913, was down 8 percent compared with the 2002 revised count of 12,916. The number of growers with sales of \$100,000 or more dropped to 4,741 for 2003 from 4,974 in 2002. The number of growers in all size-groups experienced decreases from the previous year. Total covered area for floriculture crop production totaled 929 million square feet, 3 percent less than the revised 2002 estimate. Greenhouse space for 2003 accounted for 60 percent of the total covered area with 554 million square feet, down 2 percent from 2002. The average number of hired workers employed on operations in 2003 was 14.9, up from a revised 14.2 in 2002. A total of 8,882 operations hired workers during 2003, compared with 9,598 a year earlier. Overall, 75 percent of the operations used some hired labor during 2003, compared to 74 percent in 2002.

2003 ANNUAL MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION & INCOME

Milk production in Kentucky during 2003 totaled 1.46 billion pounds, down from the 1.61 billion pounds in 2002. Production per cow averaged 12,621 pounds, down 609 pounds from 2002. An average of 116,000 milk cows were on Kentucky farms during 2003, down 6,000 from the previous year. Producers sold 1.43 billion pounds of milk to plants during 2003. Thirty-one million pounds were used on farms as milk, cream and butter, or fed to calves and other livestock. Milk sold to plants averaged \$13.40 per cwt. in 2003 compared with \$13.20 per cwt. in 2002. Receipts to producers totaled \$192 million for 2003, down 8 percent from 2002.

U.S. milk production increased 0.1 percent in 2003 to 170.3 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 18,749 pounds, was 141 pounds above 2002. The annual average number of milk cows on farms, at 9.08 million head, was 55,000 head less than 2002. Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2003 totaled \$21.2 billion, 3 percent above 2002. Producer returns averaged \$12.55 per hundredweight, 3 percent above 2002. Marketings totaled 169 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2002. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers. An estimated 1.14 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 0.4 percent less than 2002. Calves were fed 86 percent of this milk with the remainder consumed in producer households.

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>
